

B-3007 - B-3015

1810-25/1850-51

738-722 S. Charles St. (West side)

Baltimore, Md.

Private access

738 and 722 S. Charles St. (the two corner houses) are the oldest houses on this side of the 700 block of S. Charles St., having been built in the period between 1810 and 1825, or perhaps earlier. 738 S. Charles St. is two and a half stories in height, four bays wide on S. Charles St. and two bays wide on W. Montgomery St., with a dormer window facing both streets. The first floor area most recently served as a local grocery and there is a late, corner storefront entrance set diagonally to the corner of S. Charles and Montgomery Streets. 722 S. Charles St. is a two and a half story, two bay wide brick house built by a local house carpenter, Thomas Hollingsworth, that shows the one room deep floor plan used in the earliest Federal-style houses built in the area. The remaining houses on the street are all three stories in height and two bays wide. All were originally built with gable roofs, like the present-day 734, 732, 730, 726, and 724 S. Charles St., but 728 and 736 S. Charles St. were remodeled after the Civil War in the currently fashionable Italianate style and now have shed roofs and bracketed cornices. This group of three story houses was built in 1850-1851 to serve as combination storefront/residences for the increasing number of small shopkeepers moving into the area to meet the needs of the growing population.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

734 S. Charles St.

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

— VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

—DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

—STRUCTURE

—SITE

—OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

—PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

—BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

—IN PROCESS

—BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

—OCCUPIED

☒ UNOCCUPIED

—WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

—YES: RESTRICTED

—YES: UNRESTRICTED

☒ NO

PRESENT USE

—AGRICULTURE

—COMMERCIAL

—EDUCATIONAL

—ENTERTAINMENT

—GOVERNMENT

—INDUSTRIAL

—MILITARY

—MUSEUM

—PARK

—PRIVATE RESIDENCE

—RELIGIOUS

—SCIENTIFIC

—TRANSPORTATION

☒ OTHER: restoration
contemplated

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Records Office Room 601

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland 21202

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**☐ EXCELLENT☒ DETERIORATED☐ GOOD☐ RUINS☐ FAIR☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☒ UNALTERED☐ ALTERED**CHECK ONE**☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED DATE _____**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

This three story gable roofed structure was built in the 1850's as part of a group of such houses extending along this side of Charles St. It was built contemporaneously with 736 S. Charles St. and the two houses share an arched alleyway running between them.

The house is a full three stories in height, 17' wide, and extends back on a lot about 66' deep. It is constructed of running bond. The house has a low-pitched gable roof with a rectangular-shaped chimney on its south side. There is a simple brick cornice. Although the house is only two bays wide, like its neighbor 736 S. Charles St., the door is in the center of the facade, flanked by two narrow windows. The window and door openings of the first and second floors have segmentally arched brick lintels, constructed of a single row of headers on the first floor openings and a double row on the second floor openings. The window openings of the third floor have flat wood lintels. All sills are constructed of a single row of headers. No original sash remains and the openings are boarded. The house sits on a very low basement, the entrance being reached by a single stone stoop.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1850-1851

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Henry Hardesty, Jr.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house is significant as being representative of a large group of three story gable roofed houses built in the 1840's and 1850's to serve as combination residential/commercial structures. The first floor area served as a store-front and the family lived on the floors above. The first occupant of the house, a John Betscher, operated a shoemaker's shop at this location.¹ As with the adjoining house at 736 S. Charles St., this house is unusual and important because the original appearance of the store-front as conceived in the 1850's has not been altered by a modern remodeling. The store-front is quite plain and simple, with a central door flanked by two windows.

The house was built by Henry Hardesty who also built the adjoining houses at 736 and 732 S. Charles St., on land deeded to him by Sophia C. Read, the daughter of John Eager Howard.

The house has recently been sold by the City to a private owner and hopefully will soon be restored.

¹Baltimore City Directory, 1851, 1855-56

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

M.E. Hayward / Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust / Struever Bros. & Eccles

DATE

3/79

STREET & NUMBER

1745 Circle Rd.

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Ruxton

STATE

Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

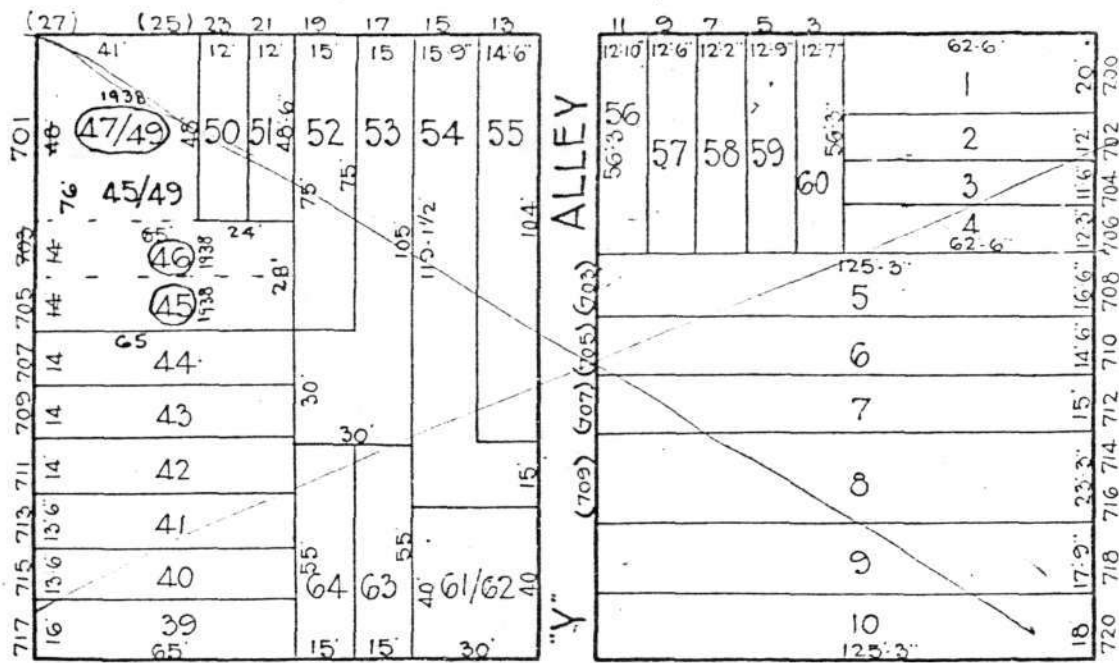
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

W. HILL

ST.

ST.

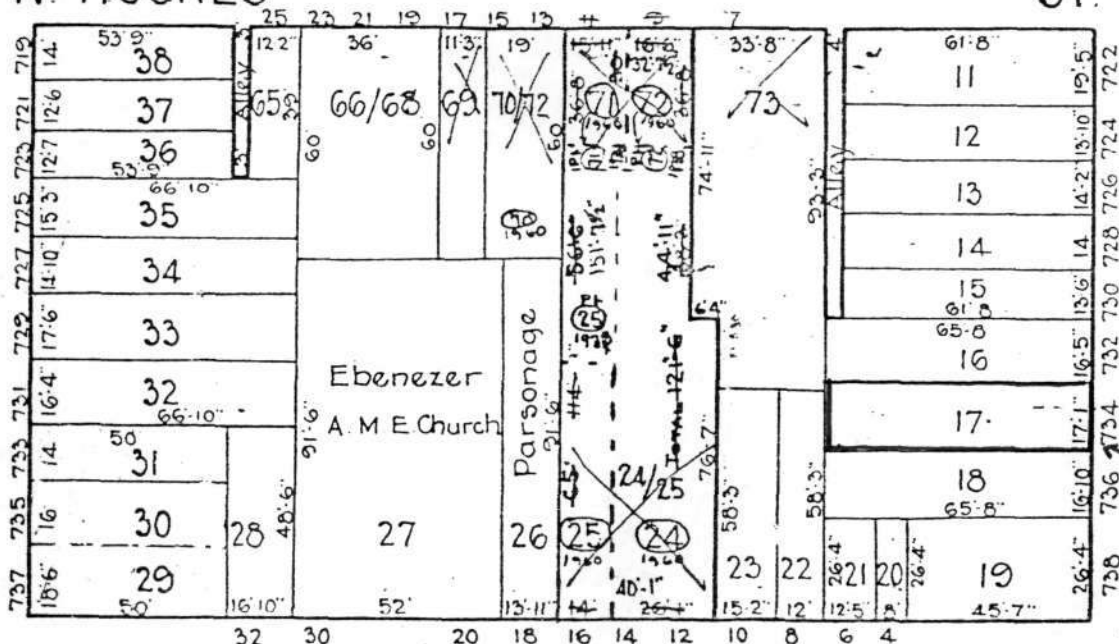


ST.

W. HUGHES

ST.

S. HANOVER

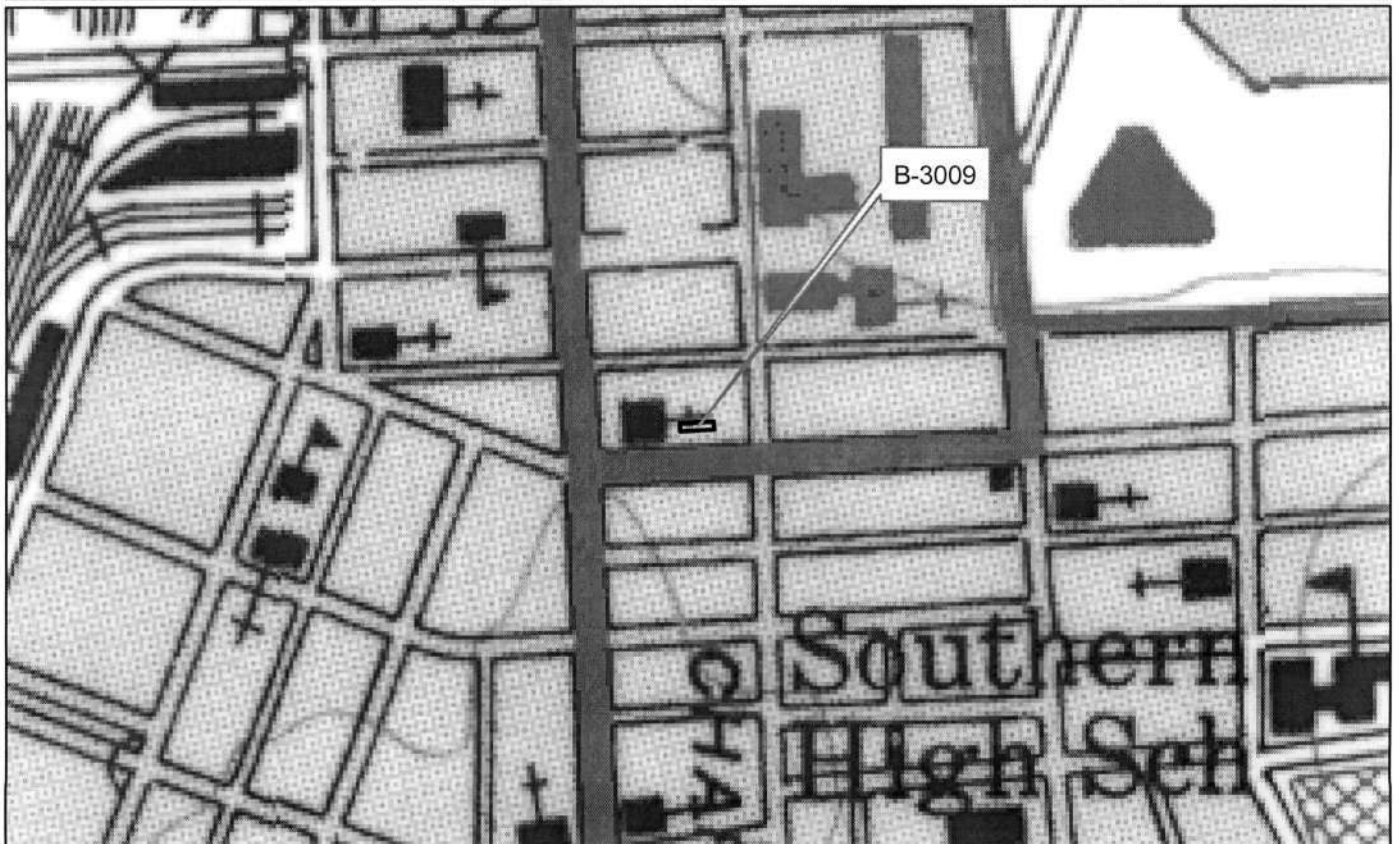


S. CHARLES

W. MONTGOMERY

ST.

B-3009
734 S. Charles Street
Block 0895 Lots 017
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





B-3009

734 S. Charles St.

- M.E.H.

5/79

East elevation